

**Bonneville Power Administration
Fish and Wildlife Program FY99 Proposal Form**

Section 1 General administrative information

Hellsgate Big Game Winter Range Continuing Acquisition

Bonneville project number, if an ongoing project 9013

Business name of agency, institution or organization requesting funding
Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation-Fish and Wildlife Department

Business acronym (if appropriate) CCT-FWD

Proposal contact person or principal investigator:
Name Steven L. Judd, Senior Wildlife Biologist
Mailing Address P.O. Box 150
City, ST Zip Nespelem, WA. 99155
Phone (509) 634-8845
Fax (509) 634-8592
Email address

Organization	Mailing Address	City, ST Zip	Contact Name
N/A			

NPPC Program Measure Number(s) which this project addresses.

NMFS Biological Opinion Number(s) which this project addresses.I
N/A

Other planning document references.
N/A

Subbasin.
Upper Columbia

Short description.
Protect, mitigate and enhance habitat for wildlife due to losses suffered from the Grand Coulee and Chief Joseph Dam Hydo Projects.

Section 2. Key Words

Mark	Programmatic Categories	Mark	Activities	Mark	Project Types
	Anadromous fish		Construction		Watershed
	Resident fish		O & M		Biodiversity/genetics
X	Wildlife		Production		Population dynamics
	Oceans/estuaries		Research		Ecosystems
	Climate		Monitoring/eval.		Flow/survival
	Other		Resource mgmt		Fish disease
			Planning/admin.		Supplementation
			Enforcement	X	Wildlife habitat en-
		X	Acquisitions		hancement/restoration

Other keywords.
Hellsgate Mitigation, Big Game

Section 3. Relationships to other Bonneville projects

Project #	Project title/description	Nature of relationship
9204800	Hellsgate Big Game Winter Range	Parent Project. This project is a segment of it.
9506700	CCT Performance Contract	This is a segment of the partent project #9204800

Section 4. Objectives, tasks and schedules

Objectives and tasks

Obj 1,2,3	Objective	Task a,b,c	Task
1	Acquire Property	a	Negotiate transaction
		b	Ammend to CCT-BPA agreement
2	Do baseline HEP	a	Conduct HEP
		b	Analyze data
		c	Complete HEP report
3	0 & M (short term)	a	Secure property
		b	Maintain Fences
		c	Remove livestock trespass
		d	Noxious Weed Control
4	Develop site specific management plan	a	Collect data
		b	Analyze data
		c	Complete plan
5	0 & M (long term)	a	Implement 0 & M based on objective 4
6	Enhancements	a	Implement enhancements based on objective 4

7	Monitoring & Evaluation	a	Implement M & E based on objective_4
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Objective schedules and costs

If you need more rows, press **Alt-R**. Press Alt-C to calculate total.

Objective #	Start Date mm/yyyy	End Date mm/yyyy	Cost %
1	10/1998	9/1999	97.00%
2	10/2000	12/2001	1.00%
3	1/2000	9/2000	2.00%
4	10/2000	12/2002	
5	1/2003		
6	1/2003		
7	1/2003		
			TOTAL 100.00%

Schedule constraints.

Note. Above items 5 through 7 are on going and cost are to be determined. Breakdown of negotiations with land owners could cause schedule changes and delays.

Completion date. Sometime after 2094.

Section 5. Budget
FY99 budget by line item

Item	Note	FY99
Personnel		
Fringe benefits		
Supplies, materials, non-expendable property	Fencing, ect.	\$5,000
Operations & maintenance	Secure property	\$25,000

Capital acquisitions or improvements (e.g. land, buildings, major equip.)	Purchase land	\$1,460,000
PITtags	# of tags: (\$2.90/tag).	
Travel		
Indirect costs		
Subcontracts		
Other	Baseline HEP	\$10,000
TOTAL		\$1,500,000

Outyear costs

Outyear costs	FY2000	FY01	FY02	FY03
Total budget	\$100,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000
O&M as % of total	80.00%	60.00%	60.00%	60.00%

Section 6. Abstract

This project is a continuing segment of the Tribes Hellsgate Winter Range Wildlife Mitigation Project. This is under our overall goal of mitigating for as much of the wildlife losses suffered from Grand Coulee and Chief Joseph Dam Projects as is possible.I

It will add additional land to the existing mitigation base by acquiring management rights to adjacent or similar lands within the project area. Approximately 2,000 to 4,000 acres will be acquired depending on cost of agreements.

These lands will enhance and buffer current efforts. They will be managed to protect, enhance and partially mitigate for habitat losses due to Hydropower developments as provided under the Northwest Power Act of 1980 and the 1994 FWP. Primary emphasis is on deer winter range and sharp-tailed grouse habitat. However, a large number of other species will receive benefit due to habitat protection and enhancement which will lead to overall increase bio-diversity.

Section 7. Project description

a. Technical and/or scientific background.

The completion of Grand Coulee Dam in 1940 brought cheap electricity and started the flow of water to a large portion of the Pacific Northwest. It was heralded as a great day for the area and the country.

As with many events there was a dark side to all of this. It brought to an end a way of life and a culture that had existed continuously in the area for thousands of years. It stopped the movement of salmon to the Upper Columbia. It destroyed **critical** habitat of deer and other wildlife species that were relied upon for existence by the native peoples. Little thought was given at the time, to how this would affect the survival of the wildlife or the people.

In 1980, forty years later, the Northwest Power Act made it possible to at last begin to address the losses to wildlife caused by the construction of Grand Coulee and Chief Joseph Dams.

Over 24,000 acres of critical, low elevation wildlife habitat were lost on the Colville Reservation. This was due to the construction and inundation impacts of the Grand Coulee and Chief Joseph hydro-projects. These losses are presented in the following documents: BPA 1986 wildlife mitigation and enhancement planning for Grand Coulee Dam, and BPA 1992 wildlife habitat impact assessment Chief Joseph Dam project, Washington.

This project proposes to partially mitigate for the above losses to wildlife. We are proposing to acquire the management rights on approximately 2,000 to 4,000 acres of land for the purpose of protecting, enhancing and managing them for wildlife in perpetuity. The actual acreage acquired will depend upon the final cost of acquisition which will be based on fair market value appraisals and negotiations. Management rights may be acquired through leases, easements, and land trades or land purchase.

There are several properties on the Colville Reservation that have high wildlife values and/or potential that are currently for sale. These properties are presently used for range and forest production and some agriculture. Many have high potential for sub-division into ranchettes and recreational properties. The sub-division of these properties would destroy the bulk of their wildlife habitat value and would seriously degrade the habitat values of adjacent lands. These high wildlife value properties are the ones we are **after**. The amount of land we acquire will depend on two things; The amount of mitigation funding we receive and the cost of the property.

This project proposal is not a truly separate project but is a segment of our on going Hellsgate Big Game Winter Range project. It is in place and in kind mitigation. It will enhance our previous efforts by increasing the overall size of core project areas. It will give protection to additional wildlife habitat and buffer existing sites. It will aid in "blocking **up**" project areas

which will in turn lead to a better overall ability to manage from watershed and ecosystem based approaches.

Project lands are and will be managed to provide long term protection and enhancement to Big Game Winter Range, primarily deer, and sharp-tailed and forest grouse habitat. In addition, habitat for a wide variety of species that are of cultural significance to the region and the Tribes will be protected, enhanced and managed in perpetuity.

Key personnel on this project have planned, acquired and are currently managing almost 17,000 acres of mitigation lands under the FWP.

b. Proposal objectives.

1. Acquire management rights to 2,000 to 4,000 acres of property, in the most feasible; cost effective manner.
2. Implement short term operation and maintenance (O & M) activities to secure and protect properties. I.e: remove and prevent livestock trespass, control noxious weeds, secure capital investments, plan fire control.
3. Perform baseline habitat evaluation procedures (HEP) to provide baseline management data and to provide initial crediting to BPA.
4. Prepare long term site specific management plan for properties. Plan will contain:
Basic soils and vegetative community types data, current condition of properties, desired future condition, enhancement alternatives necessary to reach desired future condition, O & M activities necessary to protect and manage sites. Monitoring and evaluation standards and methods needed to measure progress towards meeting objectives.
5. Implement O & M, enhancement and M & E activities. As per site specific management plan.
6. Using adaptive management practices manage project properties in perpetuity to protect and enhance wildlife habitats and populations to partially mitigate for losses caused by Grand Coulee and Chief Joseph hydroelectric projects.
7. Report project activities, successes and failures, if any, in annual reports. Provide periodic reports on any special or experimental projects as appropriate. Present activity summaries to interested groups as appropriate.

c. Rationale and significance to Regional Programs.

The rationale behind the proposed project should be presented and project objectives and hypotheses related as specifically as possible to the FWP objectives and measures or to other plans. You should make a convincing case for how the proposed work will further goals of the FWP. Relevant projects in progress in the Columbia Basin and elsewhere should be listed and discussed in relation to the proposed project. Arrangements should be identified and documented for cooperation and synergistic relationships among the proposed project, *other project proposals*; and existing projects. Any particularly novel ideas or contributions offered by the proposed project should be highlighted and discussed.

The Grand Coulee and Chief Joseph hydroelectric projects destroyed, essentially forever, in excess of 88,000 acres of critical low elevation wildlife habitat. This was composed largely of riverine, island, riparian, shrub-steppe and some conifer and mixed forest habitats. This was habitat rich in bio-diversity that supported a large number and abundance of species of wildlife.

Existing conditions throughout the region very likely preclude current management entities from ever being able to fully mitigate these losses. This project and other similar ones around the basin provide partial mitigation leading towards the fish and wildlife program goal. This project is and will protect and maintain some of the few remaining portions of shrub-steppe and uplands wildlife habitat that are still in fair to good condition.

Enhancement activities will be necessary on some sites to return them to properly functioning habitat. These activities will be closely scrutinized prior to implementation to help insure success while maintaining cost effectiveness.

This project, is a segment of the Tribes Hellsgate Big Game Winter Range project and their Colville Performance Contract project. These three projects are essentially one master project under our overall mitigation goals.

This project is not directly linked to projects being carried out by other entities in the basin. However, it is indirectly linked to other similar projects in the region.

d. Project history

This is a new project segment. See history segment under Project Number 9204800 Hellsgate Big Game Winter Range Project.

e. Methods.

Acquire management rights to 2,000 to 4,000 acres of land that is, or has reasonable potential to be, good quality wildlife habitat. Acquisition may be by lease, cooperative agreement, easement, trade, or out right purchase. Acquisition costs will be based on fair market value appraisals and negotiations with landowners.

Perform baseline HEP within a year of acquisition.

Roll this project segment into the Hellsgate Big Game Winter Range Project and follow objectives as outline in section 7-b.

We should be able to complete this project within FY99, if the requested funding is approved and funds are received in a **timely** manner. There is always the possibility that negotiations with landowners may breakdown causing delays while other desirable properties are located and negotiated.

Activities proposed and methods used to achieve them will follow those outlined in; Hellsgate Winter Range Wildlife Mitigation Project, Final Environmental Assessment 1995, and Wildlife Mitigation Program, Final **EIS**, DOE/EIS-0246.

f. Facilities and equipment.

This project is basically for acquisition of management rights to property. Specialized facilities and equipment are not particularly pertinent for this phase.

g. References.

BPA, 1995, Hellsgate Winter Range: Wildlife Mitigation Project, Final Environmental Assessment, DOE/EA-0940, Bonneville Power Administration. Portland, Oregon.

BPA, 1997, Wildlife Mitigation Program, Final Environmental Impact Statement, DOE/EIS-0246, Bonneville Power Administration.
Portland, Oregon.

Creveling, J. and Renfrow, B. 1986. Wildlife Protection, Mitigation and Enhancement

Planning for Grand Coulee Dam, Final Report, 1986. DOE/BP-86BP60445.
Bonneville Power Administration. Portland, Oregon.

Kuehn, D. and Berger, M. 1992. Wildlife Habitat Assessment Chief Joseph Dam Project, Washington Project Report, 1992, DOE/BP-91BP14775. Bonneville Power Administration. Portland, Oregon.

Section 8. Relationships to other projects

Indicate how the project complements or includes collaborative efforts with other projects; put the work into the context of other work funded under the FWP. If the proposed project requires or includes collaboration with other agencies, organizations or scientists, or any special permitting to accomplish the work, such arrangements should be fully explained. If the relationship with other proposals is unknown or is in conflict with another project, note this and explain why.

This is not intended to duplicate the Relationships table in Section 3. Instead, it allows for more detailed descriptions of relationships, includes non-interdependent relationships, and includes those not limited to specific Bonneville projects.

This is basically a stand alone project except as covered in Section 3.

Section 9. Key personnel

Include names, titles, FTE/hours, and one-page resumes for key personnel (i.e. principal investigator, project manager), and describe their duties on the project. Emphasize qualifications for the proposed work. Resumes should include name, degrees earned (with school and date), certification status, current employer, current responsibilities, list of recent previous employment, a paragraph describing expertise, and up to five recent or especially relevant publications or job completions.

Steven L. Judd, Senior Wildlife Biologist
Matthew T. Berger, Project Biologist
James V. Smith, Wildlife Area Manager.

The personnel involved with this project meet the educational and experience requirements of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation for these types of positions. The Tribes are the entity charged by law with the responsibility for carrying out these types of activities.

Section 10. Information ltechnology transfer

Information from this project will be disseminated through the Hellsgate Big Game Winter Range Project #9204800.